

REMARKS

I. Amendments

This application is the U.S. national stage application of PCT/SE2003/000378, filed March 4, 2003, which was published as WO03/074514 (“the published PCT application”) on September 12, 2003.

The Abstract has been amended to correct typographical errors which appear in the published PCT application. Support for these amendments is provided by the Abstract as originally filed.

The specification has been amended to clarify that the optional alkylene group recited in the Markush group of substituent R₁ is also cyclic. For example, it is submitted that the original expression “a cyclic C₃-C₆ alkyl or alkylene group”, as recited on page 5, lines 12-13, is more clearly expressed as amended to read --a cyclic C₃-C₆ alkyl group or **cyclic C₃-C₆-alkylene group**--. The specification has also been amended to clarify that the original expression “substituted by 0, 1, 2, 3 methyl groups” includes the alternative, i.e., --substituted by 0, 1, 2, or 3 methyl groups--. Support for this amendment is provided by page 7, lines 2-4.

Claims 6, 7, 9, 13, 14, and 16 have been canceled. Claims 1-5, 8, 10-12, 15, and 17 have been amended to correct minor typographical errors and to more clearly define the claimed invention. Specifically, claims 1-3 have been amended to include the amendments which were made to the specification. Claims 1-5, 8, 10-12, 15, and 17 have also been amended to delete reference to esomeprazole and, therefore, these amended claims are directed only to alkylammonium salts of omeprazole. Claims 3-5, 8, 10, 11, 15, and 17 have also been amended to correct instances of an improper multiple dependency and to remove dependencies upon canceled claims.

New claims 18-28 have been added, and these claims are directed to alkylammonium salts of esomeprazole. Support for new claims 18-28 is provided by claims 1-17 as originally filed.

Upon entry of this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-5, 8, 10-12, and 15-28 are pending. No new matter has been added by any amendment herein.

The Assistant Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee which may be due in connection with this communication to Deposit Account No. 23-1703.

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Respectfully submitted,



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